New York July 8. 1839.

Respected Sir

I take the liberty to inclose to you a speech I delivered in the Legislature of the State of New York that I may be favored by your opinion of its merits under the circumstances of its delivery for I had only one member on whom I could depend to second my endeavors. The men who termed themselves your friends were constantly in the habit of presenting your words in favor of the Constitutional currency or their flags & transparencies and yet no sooner were they elected than they passed more bank charters than even the opposition ever did, thus presenting the most unblushing effrontery in their conduct & braving the charge of dishonesty on the whole party. My friends and myself had no other course left than to withdraw & keep them out of power until they should feel the necessity of seconding your measures. It

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has had the effect. We ran an independent ticket, and the opposition being glad to foster any appearance of disunion placed my name on their ticket, without asking any pledges from us. For my own part when requested to stand I sent them a pamphlet published in 1833, of which I was the author, and in which Mr. Flint then Editor of the "Knickerbocker" in reviewing it said, I had "attacked the banking system in general, and the U.S. Bank in particular with the most unsparing acrimony," saying at the same time, that with such a full understanding of my views any one was a liberty to vote for me.

Thinking to flatter my friends and deceiving secretly to have some one to lash the State banks which were then screwing hard on the whole community they elected me, but when elected they attempted to collar me on the vote of thank on the expunging resolution on which occasion as is notorious I came out and said I should not only vote on the administration side but say moreover that I hoped this Mr. Benton might be the next President of the United States.

Thus was I left alone almost entirely for the men elected under your name were not

in reality at that time friendly to your measures.
Even the Argus at first refused to publish the
speech I sent the Lower to send, unless I would agree
to pay for its insertion, and this I did agree to
do, but Mr Croswell was ashamed to receive the
pay at last. Such are some of the petty annoyances
I have had to encounter. Under pretence of fair reports
I have been represented as being willing to break
up all the securities of property & my replies have
not been published. Even my life has been threatened
so that I have felt it necessary to go armed. Now
has ridicule been spared. In a word the blows which
could not be made to reach you have fallen
with all their force upon my head, to the des-
truction of my private prospects in America. I
now desire to go abroad where I may not
meet petty annoyances at every turn from the
banking interest. I have some reputation as a
writer as you may see by the enclosed pro-
jectus of the Knickerbocker under the "R's". I
can take out letters in favor of my purposes
from some of the most noted men of science in
the United States but what would gratify
me more than all would be an honorable
discharge from the "Old General." Prosper
Morse has already written in my behalf to
the Count of Russia through the Baron Man
derff.

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and it is to that count especially I desire to go with various improvements in the art of war, for Russia is out old ally. I would not go to England with them at any price. After realizing an independence I intend to return, but I cannot hope for even a competency in America. I have not looked for mere self interest, but the establishment of just principles at any sacrifice and those I have helped to reform in a measure cannot forget such lessons as may be found in the accompanying speech so that I have no invitations even to see Mr Van Buren on his tour. The party are glad of my silence, and while they sustain the independent treasury I remain quiet with my friends, and submit to personal neglect although we hold the balance of power, & may at any time, so far as New York City is concerned, place the Loves in either scale. Be so kind then my Dear Sir as to excuse yourself in a manner gratifying to my feelings for the disinterested course my friends & self pursue & especially on that speech delivered under such trying circumstance

an honorable discharge is as much due
after great moral wars, as after a contest of
arms, and what does the brave soldier value
more than such a testimonial of his courage
and good conduct in the day of trial? It is
a solace to him as he looks at his scarred
maimed limbs. I do not hesitate to say I have
suffered in a thousand ways more than
if I had gone into many such battles as
that of New Orleans, and you sir must
feel that more courage was necessary
to unlock the gripe of one of the fiercest
scoundrels from the helpless & the public
chest, than to meet bold and open ene-
mies with arms in their hands, and with
all their forces in array before you. In
that case there is no subtle poison or blows
from corrupted friend to fear. You need
not stand alone, and "veto alone" & have
every shaft aimed at what an honorable
man values more than life - his reputation.
Any private character or respectability

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has never been assailed and I have had fewer open shafts aimed at me than recent ones. I have been looked upon as the prime mover whose name had better not be too often mentioned least it might make me too great for I am connected with the patriots of the Revolution and my connexions are unexceptionable. Every means have been tried to bring me odium to the opposition, so that it has given occasion to reproaches against me, but in every committee as well of my own particular friends, as of the opposition in deadly hostility, I have had the highest vote, and before the people I had also the highest vote of any man in the state. This is one cause of the jealousy of petty politicians who now will never suffer me to appear again if they can avoid it for I am not like them. I will not stoop to court any of them as I never have done so. The sympathy of one honorable

& magnanimous spirit is worth more to
to me than all the popularity a man can
possibly receive, by any means. With that
sym. fully I would retire & remain out of
the field until at some future day it may
become necessary for me to strike again
for freedom.

Be so kind as to pardon the length
of my communications and believe me to
be although personally unknown, one
of your most devoted friends and your

True Moral Soldier

Gen Andrew Jackson. Clinton Roosevelt.

P.S. The return of the speech is respect-
fully desired - if not too troublesome - as the
author desires to preserve a copy as some small
proof of having performed his duty fearlessly
in trying times.

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Clinton Roosevelt

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